



U.S. BORDER PATROL
McALLEN SECTOR
Chief Patrol Agent Jose E. Garza
News Release

For more information contact the McAllen Border Patrol Sector Public Affairs Office,
SBPA Xavier Rios at (956) 984-3848.

July 15, 2002

Falfurrias Border Patrol Agents Seize 8.4 Million Dollars Worth of Cocaine

FALFURRIAS, Texas—U. S. Border Patrol Agents of the Falfurrias, Texas Border Patrol Station seized 264.3 pounds of cocaine concealed in a false compartment of a 1996 Ford F-350 pick-up truck.

On July 12, 2002, at approximately 9:40 p.m., Border Patrol Agents working at the traffic checkpoint located south of Falfurrias, Texas on highway 281 inspected a black 1996 Ford F-350 pick-up truck driven by Juan Carlos Rodriguez-Ruiz, a resident alien of the United States, 33 years of age, who resides in Mission, Texas and San Juana Hernandez-Garcia, a United States citizen, 38 years from San Juan, Texas.

While at the primary inspection point, Border Patrol K9 "Terry II" alerted positively to the bed of the truck after conducting a free-air, non-intrusive, inspection of the exterior of the vehicle. Agents utilizing a K-9 Buster Density Meter on the truck's bed determined something was amiss. Further inspection revealed a secret compartment, which utilized the whole bed of the truck. 94 bundles, averaging 2.8 pounds each, were discovered hidden within the secret compartment weighing a total of 264.3 pounds. The cocaine is valued at \$8,457,600. Both subjects were arrested for possession of cocaine with intent to distribute.

Both suspects, the vehicle, and the cocaine were turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration in Corpus Christi, Texas for disposition.

-USBP-

VIDEO & DIGITAL PHOTOS AVAILABLE